

and the Examiner on March 6, 1997 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office. During the interview, the basis for the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-19 was discussed.

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-19 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,339,000 to Bashan et al in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,373,282 to Carter.

The Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-19 is respectfully traversed. As discussed during the interview between the Examiner and Applicant's representative, neither Bashan nor Carter discloses, teaches or suggests a method or system for the computerized valet parking of motor vehicles. Therefore, independent Claims 1 and 12 have been amended to more positively recite limitations associated with valet parking features. In addition, independent Claim 19 has been amended to recite that the means for generating financial and employee performance evaluation reports generates such reports based on a third set of data derived from first and second sets of vehicle identification data. In view of these added limitations to independent Claims 1, 12 and 19 and associated dependent claims, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-19 be withdrawn.

In addition, Applicant submits new Claims 25-40. Claim 25 depends from independent Claim 12 that, in its amended form as discussed above, is believed to be allowable. New independent Claim 26 recites a computerized valet parking system that includes "a ticket associated with a vehicle being parked that has a set of unique electronically readable indicia" and "a vehicle retrieval device located at a site remote from said data transceiver to allow said vehicle to be retrieved from one of a plurality of vehicle retrieval sites based on a received vehicle retrieval command associated with said electronically readable indicia". Applicant states that the prior art does not disclose, teach or suggest the elements recited in Claim 26, including the claimed vehicle retrieval device. Therefore, Applicant states that new Claim 26 and associated dependent claims 27-31 are in condition for allowance.

New Claim 32 also recites a method for valet parking of vehicles that is not disclosed, taught or suggested in the cited prior art. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests the allowance of new independent Claim 32 and associated dependent Claims 33-40.

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 20-24 are allowable over the prior art of record. The allowance of Claims 20-24 is noted and appreciated. Claim 20 has, however, been amended herein to delete some unnecessary limitations, but it is believed that the claim still defines patentable subject matter.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the allowability of rejected Claims 1-19 and new Claims 25-40 and requests that the Examiner pass the case to issue at his earliest possible convenience.

Should the Examiner have any further questions concerning this application, he should not hesitate to contact the undersigned at the address or telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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